

## ABSTRACT

A method and system for accessing information on a network is disclosed. The network comprises a first system and a second system. The method and system comprise allowing the first system to submit a query to the second system, processing the query with the second system, wherein the second system utilizes information not residing on the second system to process the query and utilizing the second system to return a result of the processed query to the first system. Through the use of the method and system in accordance with the present invention, the more traditional function of the server database, which is a data storage and access facility, is decoupled from the database engine. Consequently, the server system only acts on data that it is provided access to via a system that is connected to the server system. Accordingly, no information concerning the database (i.e. data or metadata) exists on the server system. The system that is connected to the server system is oftentimes more reliable than the server system in terms of data accessibility, therefore since no metadata exists on the server system, data is capable of being accessed in a more reliable fashion.